

Slips of the Tongue in Speech Production of Indonesia State Officials: A Psycholinguistic Study

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Abstract— This study aimed to discover slips of the tongue which come about Indonesia state officials. The study used descriptive qualitative and to collect data the researcher used documentation like article, online news and online video. Whereas to analyze the data, the researcher used error analysis proposed by (Ellis). It consists of identifying errors, describing errors, explaining errors and errors evaluation. The result showed that slips of the tongue which come about Indonesia state officials when they had a formal speech in front of public place are dominated by semantic errors (as part of selection errors), and then followed by perseveration errors which is part of assembling errors. Slips of the tongue which include into parts of speech errors normally can take place in any situation either formal or non formal situation. Moreover, it also can be experienced by all of people in any education background, age or any incumbency. Commonly, the speaker who got erroneous is realized and directly corrects it.

Keywords— *slips of the tongue, speech production, psycholinguistic.*

Abstrak— Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menemukan istilah “kilir lidah” yang dialami oleh pejabat negara Indonesia. Penelitian ini menggunakan deskriptif kualitatif dan untuk mengumpulkan data peneliti menggunakan dokumentasi seperti artikel, berita online dan video online. Sedangkan untuk menganalisis data, peneliti menggunakan analisis kesalahan yang diajukan oleh (Ellis). Ini terdiri dari mengidentifikasi kesalahan, menjelaskan kesalahan, menjelaskan kesalahan dan evaluasi kesalahan. Hasilnya menunjukkan bahwa slip lidah didominasi oleh kesalahan semantik (sebagai bagian dari kesalahan seleksi), dan kemudian diikuti oleh kesalahan ketekunan yang merupakan bagian dari kesalahan perakitan. Kilir lidah bias terjadi dalam situasi apa pun baik situasi formal maupun non formal. Selain itu, kilir lidah juga dapat dialami oleh siapapun dengan latar belakang, usia atau jabatan apa pun. Umumnya, pembicara yang mengalami kilir lidah menyadari kesalahannya dan langsung mengoreksinya.

Katakunci— *Kilir Lidah, Produksi ujaran dan psycholinguistic*

I. INTRODUCTION

Oral communication is one of the crucial things in human daily life. By using good communication in a discussion, the message which is delivered can be accepted well based on the speaker's intention. In speaking aloud, we produce up to 150 words/min (Moller, 2007, p. 1). The act of speaking thus requires to proceed from the intention of what to say to semantic, syntactic, phonological, and articulatory processing stages within milliseconds (Levelt, 1989; Moller 2007, p. 1). Furthermore, in using oral communication, sometimes the people do the erroneous by saying something incorrectly. So, it will occur misunderstanding or misconception among the interlocutors. Research about slips of the tongue comes in psycholinguistic's scope. According to Darwidiwojo (2008; Assyura 2017, p. 311), psycholinguistics is a knowledge that study about human mental processes for language. He also stated that this study has four main topics, which are comprehension, production, basis for biologists and neurologists what does make people can converse, and acquisition is research language about slip of the tongue comes in psycholinguistic's scope.

The occurrence of erroneous between production result and speaker's intention can be said as slips of the tongue (Dardjowidjojo, 2008; Mayasari 2015, p. 124). Slips of the tongue includes on speech erroneous because it does not produce the real words of speaker's intention. Actually, every human seems to produce speech errors (slips of the tongue) when they have a conversation but they are not aware about it. Moreover, slips of the tongue can be occurred anytime/any situation whether formal or informal situation on someone's speech production that caused many effects. The errors or slips of the tongue definitely are nonrandom and unpredictable. Even someone could not predict when an error will occur or what the particular errors will be. Slips of the tongue is a discourse production planning; while speaker wants to say many words, phrases,

or sentences and suddenly happen something wrong, so its production does not match with its planning (Jaeger, 2005, p. 2).

Moreover, Fromkin (2006) as the first linguist who pays attention well to slips of the tongue claims that slips of the tongue have been resulted from repressed thoughts that revealed by the particular errors which a speaker makes. Thus, it can be said that slips of the tongue has relationship with someone's thought in the brain. On the other hand, Kuruoglu (2014, p. 241) said that a slip of the tongue can be defined as the type of speech errors or speech disfluency in which sounds, syllables, or whole words change their location between two or more words in utterance. In a slip of tongue, a speaker wants to say something but unintentionally says something else. Slips of the tongue can be happened intentionally or unintentionally. Intentional slips of the tongue usually have a specific purpose that is deliberately want to create a joke, for the example; when someone wants to say *Jakarta* then he/she changes it to be *Jekarda* or in English a *cup* of tea become a *tup* of tea.

In spontaneous speech especially, it requires the generation of an internal motor plan followed by initiation, execution, and monitoring. Therefore, there are some difficulties the speakers usually face when they speak to people and almost every speaker makes errors unconsciously (Rogers et al. 2010; Wikayanti 2012, p. 109). In reality, producing speech errors seems quite common not only to language learners but also to all speakers even for the state officials of Indonesia whom known as an educated people and respectable people. As known that state officials have a great chance to speak a lot and often appear in public place. Nevertheless, they also still fail to deliver their meanings smoothly and almost every speaker makes errors unconsciously either in the talk show, presentation or interview section. Slips of the tongue which include into one of speech errors give evidence that the speakers get problems in having smooth speaking. Therefore, further analysis of slip tongue in speech production is necessary to be carried out in order to find out solution of problems involved to minimize the occurrence of speech errors.

Therefore, this study has two main focuses, firstly on analyzing the slips of the tongue experienced by state officials especially in Indonesia. Secondly, describing types of slip of the tongue occurred when they speak something. Far researches had been conducted by some of researchers. Here are five researchers who already conducted study about slips of the tongue.

Firstly, psycholinguistic research which was conducted by Kuruoglu in 2014 entitled *slips of the tongue: a psycholinguistic study in Turkish language*. The purpose of

this study is to analyze whether the number of slips of tongue of the native speakers of Turkish illustrate any important differences based on age, gender and educational background differences and whether the speaker planned her/his speech in advance or not. The participants of this study were four groups consist of 7 females and 7 males. The ages are 4-8 years, 18-23, 33-50 (with different educational background). As a result of the study, it showed that the older people age the more chance to produce slips of the tongue in spoken language. Moreover, educational background also influenced someone's slips of the tongue. The result showed that education people did not produce slip of the tongue as much as uneducated people did.

The second research was conducted by Moller et al in 2006 entitled *What the Brain Does before the Tongue Slips*. This study aimed to describe brain condition when someone did the slips of the tongue during speech production. All procedures of this study were cleared by the Institutional Review Board of the University of Magdeburg. Participants of this study were 34 native speakers of German (age range 20–25 years). the data showed differential brain activity preceding slips of the tongue, it has to be kept in mind that our elicitation method induced errors, which occur very late in the speech production process.

The third study was conducted by Asyura (2017) entitled *Pause and Slip of the Tongue on Stand Up Comedy Show in Indonesia*. This purpose of this research is describing pause and slip of the tongue that happens on stand up comedy show in Indonesia. The research is the study of psycholinguistics. Data were analyzed in the form of 20 pieces of stand up comedy video on television that is downloaded via Youtube. Methods of collecting data did by using listening and record for such observation. Methods of data analysis did by transcribing the data which have been obtained or recorded into the data card orthographic, whereas the data analysis presented in the form of description by describing the forms and causes of pause and slip of the tongue happens by comica in stand up comedy show. The results of this research are the discovery of two kinds pauses, namely pause because of respiratory and the speaker experiencing doubts. The slip of the tongue can occur due to the comica spoke hastily and not concentration. Slip of the tongue units are happened the in phonetics, syllables, and words. The occurrence pause and slip of the tongue by comica due to the attitude of nervous, hesitant, afraid to make s, and too careful in presenting the humor case due to the need for time management and the competitive situation.

The forth study was conducted by Zheng in 2006 entitled *Slips of the Tongue in Second Language*

Production. This study aimed to know whether L2 slips are different from L1 slips and whether monolingual speech production models also explain L2 speech production. The data showed that different languages have different true words. So, the concept of true words of L2 may be influenced by L1. If the L1 and L2 have similar spelling patterns and rules, maybe the lexical-bias effect will also be found in L2 speech errors. Those L2 beginners, things are different. They need to do more practice to automatize their speech production and suppress those irrelevant procedures.

The fifth study was conducted by Wikayanti entitled *Speech Errors in a Talk Show Program of Metro TV Face to Face with Desi Anwar*. This article explores the types of speech errors, the frequency of each type of speech error, the dominant of speech error, and the sources of speech errors in the talk show program of Metro TV Face to Face with Desi Anwar broadcasted in January to June 2012. Descriptive and library research are applied as method. The data are utterances containing speech errors produced by guest speakers. The method of collecting data is documentation. The result showed that each type of error is started by 143 filled pauses (33.41%). The number of speech errors comprises of 121 repeats (29.88%), 49 slips of the tongue (12.10%), 39 retraced false starts (9.63%), 18 corrections (4.44%), 18 unretraced false starts (4.44%), 17 interjections (4.20%), 12 silent pauses (2.96%), and 11 stutters (2.72%). The speech errors are mostly caused by three sources; they are cognitive difficulty, situational anxiety, and social reasons. Based on previous studies above, the researcher tried to obtain deeper speech errors especially slip of the tongue of state officials in Indonesia.

II. RESEARCH METHOD

The method of this study is descriptive qualitative. This research describes speech production which concerns more on slip of the tongue. This study is qualitative approach because it explores the language phenomenon happened on educated and honorable people like state officials. As it is stated by George (2008, p. 6) that qualitative research is designated any research whose results are captured in words, images, or nonnumeric symbols. The data of this research would be taken from several state officials who got slip of the tongue when they had a speech/talk show/interview in the public place such as Marruar Sirait, Sri Mulyani, dan Bambang Soesatyo. To collect the data, the researcher used documentation such as video, articles and any kind of sources which can contribute to this research. Whereas to analyze the data, the researcher used error analysis proposed by (Ellis 1997; Wikayanti 2012, p.

112). It consists of identifying errors, describing errors, explaining errors and errors evaluation.

III. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

As mentioned above there were three passive participants who were identified to get the answers of this research. As state officials who are educated and respected by many people normally they have already had good speech, because they often appear in public place to say something important. In contrast, sometimes they make speech errors such as slips of the tongue which occur unintentionally. To find the data of this study, the researcher has already got some evidence from online video, online news and articles which consisted of their erroneous during speech production.

The first object is *Sri Mulyani* as financial minister of Indonesia Republic. Based on the online news, video and article which are identified by the researcher in some of her speech in front of the public, Sri Mulyani often got slips of the tongue in the middle of the speech production. First case occurred in one of forums cited in detik.com on 21/2/2018. Sri Mulyani got slips of the tongue when she became a speaker in the event Quo Vadis of Indonesia Digital Economy which was conducted by Kolese Kanisius alumnus in one of hotels in Jakarta. She said "*makanya saya sebetulnya merindukan teknologi yang bisa memecahkan masalah di perkotaan sudah begitu ruwet dan ruwit.*" In this case, unintentionally Sri Mulyani got slips of the tongue when she would like to say ruwet dan rumit become ruwet and ruwit. The second case occurred also in one of formal forums cited in detik.com on 13/7/2017. She got slips of the tongue when she had speech in formal meeting with some members of Legislatives assembly at DPR RI Building. In the middle of speech she said "*Usulan pemangkasan anggaran Rp 45 triliun dari Rp 234,87 miliar, maaf maksudnya Rp 45 miliar.*" Actually she would like to say billion not trillion, but because of erroneous (slips of the tongue) she made a mistake.

The second object is Bambang Soesatyo, he is the new chairman of DPR RI who changed Setya Novanto's position. As cited in one of online media Sindonews on 15/1/2018, Bamsot was appointed and sworn as legislative chairman of Indoneisa. When he was sworn as legislative chairman, unintentionally he got slips of the tongue so he must repeat it three times. When office oath was held, he followed Hatta Ali's (Chairman of the Supreme Court) utterance which sounds "*Serta mengutamakan kepentingan bangsa dan negara,*" whereas Bamsot said "*Dengan mengutamakan kepentingan bangsa dan negara,*" in this case Bamsot had a speech errors (slips of the tongue) and

he did it more than one. This erroneous occurred definitely because of many problems, one of them is because of nervousness.

The third object is Maruarar Sirait, he is one of members of DPR RI. As cited in one of online media RMOL.CO on 17/2/18, when he had a speech as the chief of Steering Committee of Foot ball competition in the great event "President Cup 2018" he got slip of the tongue. In the middle of his welcoming speech unintentionally he mentioned *Anis Baswedan as governor of Indonesia*. Besides, as known by Indonesia societies, Anis Baswedan is a governor of Jakarta not Indonesia. This case was one of the popular and booming news at that time, because the erroneous which happened was very sensitive and full of implicit meaning.

Based on data found above, it can be said that slips of the tongue seem like something simple but very crucial. It also can be happened because of some factors. Speech errors/slips of the tongue does not recognize anyone, it can be experienced by all of people no matter of their age, educational background or their incumbency. It is in line with the result of study which conducted by Kuruoglu (2014), he stated that slips of the tongue also occurred on educated people not only uneducated people and all aged. Nevertheless, educated people did not get slips of the tongue as much as uneducated people did.

According to Mayasari (2015, p. 126) there are two kinds of slips of the tongue, the error of selection and assembling errors. Selection errors include semantic errors, malapropism errors, word intervention, and transposition. Unlike semantic errors, assembling errors include anticipation and perseveration errors. Based on the research which already had been conducted, both of selection errors and assembling errors occurred in this study. Type of Selection errors (Freudian slips) as one of parts of slips of the tongue especially, it requires the generation of an internal motor plan followed by initiation, execution, and monitoring. Therefore, there are some difficulties the speakers usually face when they speak to people and almost every speaker makes errors unconsciously occurred on Maruarar Sirait speech. Maruarar had mentioned *Anis Baswedan as governor of Indonesia*, but it should be *governor of Jakarta*. In this case unintentionally Sirait did semantic errors in his speech production. Slip of the tongue which happened on Soesatyo speech also include into semantic errors, because the word which is said did not match with his expectation. "*Serta mengutamakan kepentingan bangsa dan negara*," it should be "*Dengan mengutamakan kepentingan bangsa dan negara*,"

In accordance with Sirait and Bamsot case, Mulyani also got slips of the tongue because of semantic errors in her second speech production errors. As she said "*Usulan pemangkasan anggaran Rp 45 triliun dari Rp 234,87 miliar, maaf maksudnya Rp 45 miliar*". Actually she would like to say billion not trillion, but because of erroneous she made a mistake. In this case unintentionally Mulyani also did semantic errors in his speech production as same as Sirait did. In contrast, Mulyani's first speech errors (slips of the tongue) include into part of assembling errors particularly perseveration errors. As she said "*makanya saya sebetulnya merindukan teknologi yang bisa memecahkan masalah di perkotaan sudah begitu ruwet dan ruwet*." Unintentionally Sri Mulyani got slips of the tongue when she would like to say ruwet dan rumit become ruwet and ruwet.

Furthermore, according to Asyura (2017, p. 314) in his research Slip of the tongue happens in many linguistics levels. It can be described in a few units. Asyura also stated that there are some units following on slip of the tongue; a. Phonetic segment error: phonetic error happens since phonemics commute place. b. Syllable Error: are not impossible too that error happens on syllable. Usually well-nigh ever that most trades it a first consonant of a tribe with first consonantal of tribal other. c. word error: this error happens if that most trades place be said. Based on the findings and discussion above, it can be concluded that most of state officials did slips of the tongue in semantic errors. They often say something which is unsuitable with their intentions. Nevertheless, this kind of speech errors normally happened to all of people without any exception.

IV. CONCLUSION

Slips of the tongue which happened to Indonesia state officials when they have a formal speech in front of public place are dominated by semantic errors as part of selection errors, and then followed by perseveration errors which is part of assembling errors. Slips of the tongue which include into parts of speech errors normally can happen in any situations either formal or non formal situation. Moreover, it also can be experienced by all of people in any background education, aged or any incumbency. Commonly, the speaker who got erroneous is realized and directly corrects it.

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